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**CALTRANS NEWS RELEASE**

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**District:** District 3 - Marysville, [www.dot.ca.gov/dist3](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist3)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Fix50 Eastbound Work to Finish Early**

*All Eastbound lanes to be fully open by Friday morning, May 16*

SACRAMENTO – The Fix50 project is ahead of schedule, and motorists will get a nice break for Memorial Day Weekend when all lanes will be open. Eastbound Phase 2, which began five days early to resurface the outside lanes of Highway 50 between 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Streets in Sacramento, will finish 6 days early on May 16.

All lanes of Highway 50 will be open to motorists for a full 10 days. Work will resume after Memorial Day Weekend so there will be no interruption for travelers over the holiday when the Sacramento Music Festival and County Fair are in town.

“Caltrans would like to thank our partners for their added outreach, staff, and services that helped to increase public awareness and alleviate traffic issues,” added Director Jones. “We also thank drivers who changed their regular workday commute, or chose alternate modes of transportation. Those motorists who chose to bike commute, use light rail, bus, train, walk, carpool, and avoided unnecessary trips helped lessen the overall traffic impacts in the region.”

Additionally, Caltrans advises the public to continue advanced travel planning for the closures scheduled on the westbound side and to expect additional delays.

On Thursday evening, May 15, crews will begin the process to reopen all eastbound lanes. The change-over will begin at approximately 9 PM, and involves removing K-rail barriers, changing the sign structures, and sealing and restriping the newly completed lanes into their original configuration. The full transition will finish by 7 AM Friday morning May 16, concluding all traffic-interfering work on eastbound Highway 50 in the W-X Viaduct. There will be some finishing work to do once both phases are complete, but nothing that will require major traffic interference.

Hornet Drive, which has been closed to Folsom Blvd. traffic for use as a detour, will also be reopened Friday morning and will remain open until Westbound Phase 2 begins.

Traffic heading to the Sacramento Republic FC game at Hughes Stadium on Saturday, May 17 will be able to use the connector ramp from eastbound Highway 50 to southbound 99 to get to the game.

**Upcoming work:** Westbound Highway 50, between 24<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets, in Sacramento





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Westbound work will run from May 27<sup>th</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup> and will occur in two phases. Phase 1 will begin at Midnight Tuesday, May 27 and is scheduled to run until June 10. No ramps will be affected during the first westbound phase.

Phase 2 is scheduled for June 11-25. Ramp closures include the connector ramp from westbound Business 80 (Capitol City Freeway) to westbound Highway 50, and the 16<sup>th</sup> Street off-ramp. Major congestion is expected throughout the region during westbound work, including on other area highways and surface streets.

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“The westbound phase has potential for much greater congestion just because of the number of people who commute from eastern Sacramento County into downtown,” said Director Jones. “Also, the alternate routes drivers used for the eastbound phase may not be the best routes for westbound.”

Motorists are highly encouraged to plan their alternate routes ahead of time, allow additional travel time, and use alternate transportation whenever possible. Light rail, bike commuting and other mass transit continue to be a better option than wading into the heavy traffic. Links to alternate transportation options and alternate routes are available at [Fix50.com](http://Fix50.com) or by calling 511 or 311.

**Get Project Updates:** Motorists can sign up to receive project updates via text alerts, email or social media; and can link to local transit agencies at [Fix50.com](http://Fix50.com).

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Fix50WX>
- **Twitter:** [@Fix\\_50](https://twitter.com/Fix_50)
- **Instagram:** [@Fix\\_50](https://www.instagram.com/Fix_50)
- **Text Alerts:** Text “Fix50” to 20673

**About the Project:** The W-X Viaduct is the elevated section of U.S. Highway 50 in Sacramento south of downtown, between 18th and 24th Streets. Although there are no safety problems with the Viaduct currently, age and heavy use have caused extensive wear and cracking. The construction contractor, Myers & Sons Construction of Sacramento, is sealing cracks and installing a new 4-inch concrete deck on top of the existing deck, and tying it to the girders to give the Viaduct another 20 years of useful life.

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